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FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1503, OCTOBER 27

NIACT

POLICY

CUBA

FOL ARE TEXTS LETTERS BETWEEN SYG AND CASTRO IN WHICH CASTRO APPARENTLY ACCEPTS SUSPENSION MISSILE CONSTRUCTION IN CUBA AND INVITES SYG TO VISIT CUBA.

TO CASTRO FROM U THANT DATED 26 OCT 1962:

"I HOPE THAT AMB GARCIA-INCHAUSTEGUI HAS CONVEYED TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE APPEAL THAT I ADDRESSED TO YOU AND TO PRESIDENT DORTICOS THROUGH HIM IN THE COURSE OF THE STATEMENT I MADE BEFORE THE SC ON 24 OCT. I THEN RECALLED THE FOLLOWING WORDS OF PRESIDENT DORTICOS, UTTERED FROM THE ROSTRUM OF THE GA ON 8 OCT: 'WERE THE US ABLE TO GIVE US PROOF, BY WORD AND DEED, THAT IT WOULD NOT CARRY OUT AGGRESSION AGAINST OUR COUNTRY, THEN, WE DECLARE SOLEMNLY BEFORE YOU HERE AND NOW, OUR WEAPONS WOULD BE UNNECESSARY AND OUR ARMY REDUNDANT.'

"I ADDED THAT I BELIEVED IT WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO FINDING A WAY OUT OF THE PRESENT IMPASSE IF THE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MAJOR MILITARY FACILITIES AND INSTALLATIONS IN CUBA COULD BE SUSPENDED DURING THE PERIOD OF NEGOTIATIONS'.

HAS AMB GARCIA MAY HAVE REPORTED TO YOU I HAVE RECEIVED FAIRLY ENCOURAGING RESPONSES TO MY APPEAL FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM FROM THE PRESIDENT OF

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-2- 1503, OCTOBER 27, FROM: NEW YORK

THE US AND FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE USSR. YOUR EXCELLENCY CAN MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEACE OF THE WORLD AT THIS PRESENT CRITICAL JUNCTURE BY DIRECTING THAT THE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MAJOR MILITARY FACILITIES AND INSTALLATIONS IN CUBA, AND ESPECIALLY INSTALLATIONS DESIGNED TO LAUNCH MEDIUM RANGE AND INTER-MEDIATE RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILES, BE SUSPENDED DURING THE PERIOD OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE NOW UNDER WAY.

"IT WOULD ENCOURAGE ME GREATLY TO HAVE AN AFFIRMATIVE REPLY TO THIS APPEAL VERY URGENTLY."

TO U THANT FROM GARCIA-INCHAUSTEGUI DATED 27 OCT 1962:

"ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVT OF CUBA I HAVE THE HONOR TO TRANSMIT TO YOU THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

"YOUR EXCELLENCY,

"I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE DATED 26 OCT, AND EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION OF YOUR NOBLE CONCERN.

"CUBA IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS AS FULLY AS MAY BE NECESSARY, ITS DIFFERENCES WITH THE US AND TO DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UN, TO RESOLVE THE PRESENT CRISIS. HOWEVER, IT FLATLY REJECTS THE VIOLATION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR COUNTRY INVOLVED IN THE NAVAL BLOCKADE, AND ACT OF FORCE AND WAR COMMITTED BY THE US AGAINST CUBA. IN ADDITION, IT FLATLY REJECTS THE PRESUMPTION OF THE US TO DETERMINE WHAT ACTIONS WE ARE ENTITLED TO TAKE WITHIN OUR COUNTRY, WHAT KIND OF ARMS WE CONSIDER APPROPRIATE FOR OUR DEFENSE, WHAT RELATIONS WE ARE TO HAVE WITH THE USSR, AND WHAT INTERNATIONAL POLICY STEPS WE ARE ENTITLED TO TAKE, WITHIN THE RULES AND LAWS GOVERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD AND THE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE UN, IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE OUR OWN SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY."

"CUBA IS VICTIMIZING NO ONE; IT HAS VIOLATED NO INTERNATIONAL LAW; ON THE CONTRARY, IT IS THE VICTIM OF THE AGGRESSIVE ACTS OF THE US, SUCH AS THE NAVAL BLOCKADE, AND ITS RIGHTS HAVE BEEN OUTRAGED."

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-3- 1503, OCTOBER 27, FROM: NEW YORK: : : :

THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF CUBA WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE COMPROMISES THAT YOU REQUEST AS EFFORTS IN FAVOR OF PEACE, PROVIDED THAT AT THE SAME TIME, WHILE NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS, THE US GOVT DESISTS FROM THREATS AND AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS AGAINST CUBA, INCLUDING THE NAVAL BLOCKADE OF OUR COUNTRY.

AT THE SAME TIME I EXPRESS TO YOU OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ATTENTIVELY ANY NEW SUGGESTION YOU MAY PUT FORWARD; FURTHERMORE SHOULD YOU CONSIDER IT USEFUL TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE, OUR GOVT WOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE YOU IN OUR COUNTRY, AS SYG OF THE UN, WITH A VIEW TO DIRECT DISCUSSIONS ON THE PRESENT CRISIS, PROMPTED BY OUR COMMON PURPOSE OF FREEING MANKIND FROM THE DANGERS OF WAR.

UNRESERVED RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY OF CUBA IS THE ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE IF CUBA IS TO CONTRIBUTE WITH THE GREATEST SINCERITY AND GOODWILL, GRUDGING NO STEP TOWARDS THE SOLUTION OF THE PRESENT PROBLEM, AND JOINING FORCES WITH ALL THOSE PEOPLES WHO ARE STRUGGLING TO SAVE PEACE AT THIS DRAMATIC MOMENT IN THE LIFE OF MANKIND; CUBA CAN DO WHATEVER IS ASKED OF IT, EXCEPT UNDERTAKE TO BE A VICTIM AND TO RENOUNCE THE RIGHTS WHICH BELONG TO EVERY SOVEREIGN STATE.

I REITERATE THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

MAJOR FIDEL CASTRO RUZ, PRIMIN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVT OF CUBA.

"ACCEPT, ETC."

STEVENSON

DMJ

Note: Advance copies to ARA SS and SS/O 10 27 CWC JRL
Relayed to White House. IO NOTIFIED.
Passed OSD for SECDEF, CIA, ARMY, NAVY, AIR.

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